
HOUSE BILL 1274

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Lantz, Alexander, Sommers, Rockefeller, Fromhold, Benson, Newhouse and Kagi

Read first time 01/22/2003. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to postjudgment interest on tort judgments;
2 amending RCW 4.56.115, 4.56.110, and 19.52.025; and creating a new
3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 4.56.115 and 1983 c 147 s 2 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Judgments founded on the tortious conduct of the state of
8 Washington or of the political subdivisions, municipal corporations,
9 and quasi municipal corporations of the state, whether acting in their
10 governmental or proprietary capacities, shall bear interest from the
11 date of entry at two percentage points above the (~~maximum rate~~
12 ~~permitted under RCW 19.52.020 on~~) equivalent coupon issue yield (as
13 published by the board of governors of the federal reserve system) of
14 the average bill rate for twenty-six week treasury bills as determined
15 at the first bill market auction conducted during the calendar month
16 immediately preceding the date of entry thereof(~~:- PROVIDED, That~~).
17 In any case where a court is directed on review to enter judgment on a
18 verdict or in any case where a judgment entered on a verdict is wholly

1 or partly affirmed on review, interest on the judgment or on that
2 portion of the judgment affirmed shall date back to and shall accrue
3 from the date the verdict was rendered.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 4.56.110 and 1989 c 360 s 19 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Interest on judgments shall accrue as follows:

7 (1) Judgments founded on written contracts, providing for the
8 payment of interest until paid at a specified rate, shall bear interest
9 at the rate specified in the contracts: PROVIDED, That said interest
10 rate is set forth in the judgment.

11 (2) All judgments for unpaid child support that have accrued under
12 a superior court order or an order entered under the administrative
13 procedure act shall bear interest at the rate of twelve percent.

14 (3) Except as provided under subsections (1) and (2) of this
15 section, judgments shall bear interest from the date of entry at two
16 percentage points above the ((maximum rate permitted under RCW
17 19.52.020 on)) equivalent coupon issue yield (as published by the board
18 of governors of the federal reserve system) of the average bill rate
19 for twenty-six week treasury bills as determined at the first bill
20 market auction conducted during the calendar month immediately
21 preceding the date of entry thereof((:—PROVIDED, That)). In any case
22 where a court is directed on review to enter judgment on a verdict or
23 in any case where a judgment entered on a verdict is wholly or partly
24 affirmed on review, interest on the judgment or on that portion of the
25 judgment affirmed shall date back to and shall accrue from the date the
26 verdict was rendered.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The rate of interest required by sections 1
28 and 2, chapter . . . , Laws of 2003 (sections 1 and 2 of this act)
29 applies to the accrual of interest:

30 (1) As of the date of entry of judgment with respect to a judgment
31 that is entered on or after the effective date of this act;

32 (2) As of the effective date of this act with respect to a judgment
33 that was entered before the effective date of this act and that is
34 still accruing interest on the effective date of this act.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 19.52.025 and 1986 c 60 s 1 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 Each month the state treasurer shall compute the highest rate of
4 interest permissible under RCW 19.52.020(1), and the rate of interest
5 required by RCW 4.56.115, for the succeeding calendar month. The
6 treasurer shall file (~~this rate~~) these rates with the state code
7 reviser for publication in the next available issue of the Washington
8 State Register in compliance with RCW 34.08.020(8).

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